

THE FLYER



Wednesday, February 19, 2020 / Student-run newspaper



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ABOUT

The Flyer is Salisbury University's student newspaper-composed by students for students. The organization was established in 1972 to keep to SU community informed and entertained.

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The Flyer strives for accuracy and corrects its errors immediately. If you believe a factual error has been printed, feel free to contact the staff. Thank you.

NEWS

President's office attempts to address diversity issues at SU



President Wight addressed student concerns at forum last semester /Emma Reider Image

By JAKOB TODD and ALLISON GUY / Staff writer / Copy editor

DIVERSITY-Amid the recent incidents and dialogue surrounding SU about diversity, President Charles Wight's administration has taken immediate action to address these issues. Among the most impactful changes are the decision to make the Office of Diversity and Inclusion independent and the establishment of the President's Cabinet.

Last November, during the aftermath of multiple acts of racist vandalism in Fulton Hall, Wight chose to separate the Office of Diversity and Inclusion from the Office of Institutional Equity as one of many massive changes to the university. As its own independent office, the president will now have more direct oversight

of the office's practices.

The decision reverses course from SU's previous administration, as the Office of Diversity and Inclusion was originally independent until it was merged under the purview of one associate vice president with the Office of Institutional Equity in 2014.

"It became evident that the Office of Diversity and Inclusion needed to become independent again to ensure that they were being provided the adequate resources and the adequate attention that they deserve, particularly as this president has made a renewed commitment to diversity and inclusion and creating that sense

DIVERSITY page 3

New 'Ultimate Unlimited' Meal Plan option coming fall semester



Sofia Carrasco Image

By HALEY TAYLOR / Staff writer

MEAL PLANS-Salisbury University Dining Services will implement a new meal plan option that will start in the fall 2020 semester. It will be priced at \$2550 and will provide unlimited access to the Commons and \$400 in Dining Dollars. The new plan will replace both the current A and B Plan options.

Currently, the A Plan is priced at \$2600 and provides unlimited access but only \$250 in Dining Dollars, while the B Plan is priced at \$2400 and provides only 200 visits to the Commons and \$400 in Dining Dollars.

Students who live on campus are required to purchase either the A or B Plan option.

There are many students who are not required

MEAL PLAN page 3

Salisbury University hires new director of student counseling services

By SOFIA CARRASCO and KYRA WILKINS/ Editor-in-Chief / Staff writer

COUNSELING CENTER-Salisbury University welcomes a new director of student counseling services, Dr. Lilian Odera, who began on Feb. 12.

Odera is a licensed psychologist and received her Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. She is coming to SU from Towson University and has more than 12 years of experience in this position.

In the wake of multiple student deaths and the racist vandalism that occurred last semester, Odera brings a new perspective and background to the now-filled position of director. Odera is qualified for this position and has experiences with "diversity training, cultural competencies, social justice approaches, faith-based practices, quantitative research methodology, and with international, LGBTQ, and marginalized student populations," according to Student Affairs.

SU's counseling center, located in Guerrieri Student Union Room 263, is not only a center for counseling, but a hub for mental health awareness, education, at-risk training and workshops.

The university is one of the many colleges around the country that provide counseling services free of charge to their students. The addition of Odera brings the number of counseling center staff up to eight people, including interns, counselors and administrative support. However, there are only three staff who are acting counselors to a student population of over 9,000.

Dr. Joseph Venosa, associate professor of history at SU, believes increasing mental health and counseling services at SU should be of high priority.

"We are experiencing like never before massive emotional and psychological problems with our students, and the counseling center is running below the minimum as far as professional guidelines state," Venosa said.



Counseling Center located in the Guerrieri Student Union room 263 /Marshall Haas Image

As a professor, Venosa has witnessed firsthand how his classes and students have been impacted by the understaffed counseling center. He also pointed out that SU is one of the few universities that does not have a registered psychiatrist.

"You can look at all the schools under the University of Maryland System and you can see that SU, Coppen State and Morgan State are the only ones who do not have a registered psychiatrist on staff," Venosa said. "Some schools have multiple, and others at have at least part-time."

He does highlight an important fact of why SU's search for a new director and counselors have been difficult: There is a shortage of therapists and mental health services in Salisbury and the Eastern Shore.

Ensuring that the campus's mental health needs are met has become increasingly more important to students.

Tori Defelice, a senior majoring in finance, says she appreciates SU's counseling center. "I'm really grateful that the counseling center is

there and that it is a free service," Defelice said. "I've struggled with lots of anxiety, and being a senior this year has just been rough with all my upper-level classes"

However, Defelice says the center can improve its marketing and communication with students.

"I think they need to expand on their promotion that Salisbury has a counseling center. People's responses are usually like, 'Oh, I didn't even know we had a counseling center.' I'm always shocked at how many people don't know about it," Defelice said.

The center is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Those who want to make an appointment at the counseling center are advised to call the counseling center or visit it in the Guerrieri Student Union Room 263.

Odera has yet to release a statement on her plans for improving the counseling center and what she hopes to bring to SU as the new director.

Diversity from page 1

of belonging for everyone on this campus," said Eli Modlin, the chief of staff and director of government and community relations.

Modlin is also currently leading the efforts and staff of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion until the full-time position of chief diversity officer is filled.

Some of the specific focuses of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion are to support diversity and inclusion training, as well as the retention and recruitment of faculty, staff and students from diverse backgrounds. The office has also heavily encouraged the use of the Center for Equity, Justice and Inclusion in Blackwell Hall.

The second major decision made by Wight's administration was the establishment of the President's Cabinet, which will meet every two weeks to discuss pressing campus issues.

Among its members will be the president, his executive staff, the Title IX officer and, once

hired, the chief diversity officer.

The CDO will serve as a representative for the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and an aid to the president in all meetings as a member of the cabinet. The office's mission will now be able to influence critical decisions made regarding funding, campus culture and overall campus diversity.

However, Modlin emphasized the importance of everyone's role in creating a diverse and tolerant campus at SU and that inputs from all sources are still vital.

"[These issues] affect us all," Modlin said. "It's all of our responsibility to live up to the mission, vision and values of Salisbury University, and those are heavily dependent on creating and maintaining an inclusive atmosphere."

Modlin also mentioned that Wight has taken a number of steps to promote better communication with the campus community by establishing a new text-messaging process, reinvigorating social media accounts and establishing office hours for himself and his staff.

Modlin has suggested a few of many avenues students, faculty, and community members can take to address their concerns or provide suggestions, such as taking advantage of the president and his entire administration's new open office hours — which are available on the president's website — and attending new quarterly university town halls.

The president's office has also unveiled a new anonymous reporting mechanism available through the president's website for those who are not comfortable presenting their concerns through traditional methods of communication.

The next step in the path toward change lies in the President's Special Task Force on Diversity and Inclusion, which is comprised of staff, faculty, students, alumni and community members working together to identify key focus areas for the Office of Diversity and Inclusion. The task force is scheduled to present Wight with a report of the campus issues that they have found, as well as suggested short- and long-term goals, by March 6.

SU looks to add chief diversity officer amid racist vandalism



Holloway Hall / Brendan Link Image

By JAKOB TODD / Staff writer

CDO-New leadership will soon be brought to the flock at Salisbury University. With the Office of Diversity and Inclusion now its own independent body under the president, the university is searching for its first full-time Chief Diversity Officer to lead the office and SU's renewed commitment to an all-inclusive campus experience.

The CDO will also hold the title of associate vice president for diversity and inclusion and be a member of the President's Cabinet, reporting directly to President Charles Wight.

Wight's original intention when he first arrived to SU in 2018 was to create a CDO position and to separate the Office of Diversity and Inclusion after the upcoming Strategic Plan was finalized.

However, following the racist vandalism incidents of the fall semester, the administration deemed it was necessary to act immediately and expedite the search and move of the office.

The CDO search is currently underway and being conducted by the university's HR process.

Given the gravity of the hire, the search for a chief diversity officer has taken on many unique aspects, such as including students, faculty, staff, alumni and community members all on the search committee, which is only typical of presidential hires.

Additionally, the candidates will be brought to campus to have the opportunity to meet and interact with the president and university leadership, as well as students, faculty and staff through open sessions and meetings.

Eli Modlin, SU's chief of staff and director of government and community relations, is currently leading the efforts and staff of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion until the CDO position is filled.

When asked how long he believes the position will remain open, Modlin said, "The president is hopeful that a successful candidate will emerge this semester."

Vice President of Student Affairs Dane Foust believes that this new position will help establish better institutional values across campus.

"We've created a new position, the chief diversity officer, who will oversee a lot of the activities, but the person that's in that position has to be able to reach across all areas of the university," Foust said. "So that whoever's in that position has the responsibility for helping guide and direct how we look at our campus and how we position our campus as a welcoming, caring kind of community."

The Chief Diversity Officer application, which is available under the "Human Resources" tab on the university's website, lists the position's minimum requirements as "seven to ten years of related experience and a master's degree in human resources, higher education administration, public administration, social work, psychology, or a related field ... experience in diversity and inclusion leadership, to include trainer/educator, as well as experience developing and conducting needs assessments and the appropriate response systems."

As for potential candidates' key qualities, the application suggests having an ability to work with diverse groups to support an inclusive campus environment, an ability to be a successful agent for change, strong interpersonal skills and a sensitivity to individual needs, among others.

However, Modlin does recognize the long journey ahead to improve campus culture at SU.

"This is not a process that's going to end when a chief diversity officer is hired. That's just a piece of the puzzle."

Meal plans from page 1

to purchase a meal plan, but still choose to buy the A or the B Plan.

The B Plan is by far the most popular option, outpacing the A plan 4 to 1. Over half of the A plan holders from the fall 2019 semester downgraded to the B plan for the spring 2020 semester.

Under the B Plan, students must average 1.7 visits to the Commons a day for their plan to last the entirety of the semester.

Dining Services conducted focus group studies and pulled largely from student workers across admissions, catering and the Commons. The focus groups found that many students feel as if they have to "save swipes," resulting in a surplus at the end of the semester.

Vice President of Administration and Finance Dr. Marvin Pyles said that the goal of this new meal plan is for students to feel free to visit the Commons as often as they would like and for any food cravings.

"They can come in 10 times a day. I can walk by and get an apple. I can walk by and get an ice cream cone. I don't have to use a swipe," Pyles said. "They're sitting there doing the math in their head, 'Well, I'm not going to go in just to get a slice of pizza.' We don't want them to worry about that. We want them to just go in whenever, or just go to sit with friends."

The new plan combines the unlimited swipes from the A Plan with the \$400 in Dining Dollars from the B Plan. Switching from the A Plan to the new plan will provide a \$150 increase in Dining Dollars with a \$50 decrease in overall price. Students also have the added benefit of tax-free purchases when they use their Dining Dollars.

Director of Dining Services Owen Rosten believes this new plan is the "best of both worlds," and students will enjoy it.

"We'll let you have all the meals you want, and we'll give you all the Dining Dollars to

spend. How could that be better?" said Rosten.

Salisbury University's in-house dining service is ranked fifth in the nation, according to the National Association of College and University Food Services. Compared to schools across Maryland, Delaware and Virginia, Salisbury University's price for unlimited dining access is the lowest.

As the new top of the line option, it will be the required meal plan for students living on campus. The C, D and E meal plans will remain available with no changes.

All meal plan options include guest passes. The new plan will have four, while the other meal plans have two. Students who do not use their guest passes, which do not roll over at the end of the semester, are encouraged to donate them to Food for the Flock.

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EDITORIAL

SU rings in the New Year with a new drug & alcohol prevention plan

By MELANIE RAIBLE/ Editorial editor

PLAN-According to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, about 20% of college students meet the criteria for alcohol use disorder. This statistic continues to rise as more and more college students find themselves crossing the thin line over from casual drinking to something more serious.

While drinking can be a fun and social event, there are heavy consequences that can come along with it. Whether you personally drink or not, it is virtually impossible that you won't come into contact with college drinking at least once during your higher education experience.

The term "alcoholic" has a very stereotypical meaning attached to it. For many of us, when we think of someone who has an alcohol problem, we may see an older person who is down in the dumps, unhappy and unstable. We forget that there are also people who are "functioning alcoholics" who may not fit all, if any, of these criteria.

According to American Addiction Centers, a functioning alcoholic is someone who has "a dependence on, tolerance to, and intense cravings for alcohol," but they still maintain a job, complete school and seem to have apparently healthy relationships.

Sometimes it is very hard to know whether or not someone is a functioning alcoholic since they seem to have it all together. They manage to get up, go to work or school and seem to get along just fine. In fact, many functioning alcoholics don't even admit that they have a drinking problem to themselves.

The media tends to reinforce that stereotypical alcoholic, as mentioned earlier, in movies



Pinterest Image

and on television. This only adds to the confusion around drinking. The media plants this idea that in order to be an alcoholic, you have to hit some sort of "rock bottom." In reality, not everyone will hit a rock bottom. It is more likely for someone who is struggling with an alcohol problem to float for a while before slowly sinking.

If you or someone you know is struggling with an alcohol problem, there are resources at Salisbury University that can help. About three weeks ago, SU drafted a new drug and alcohol prevention plan, which focuses on nine areas.

These areas are designed to ensure that SU's students, staff and faculty are aware of the dangers of abuse of alcohol and other drugs by providing information to help anyone who is struggling with addiction.

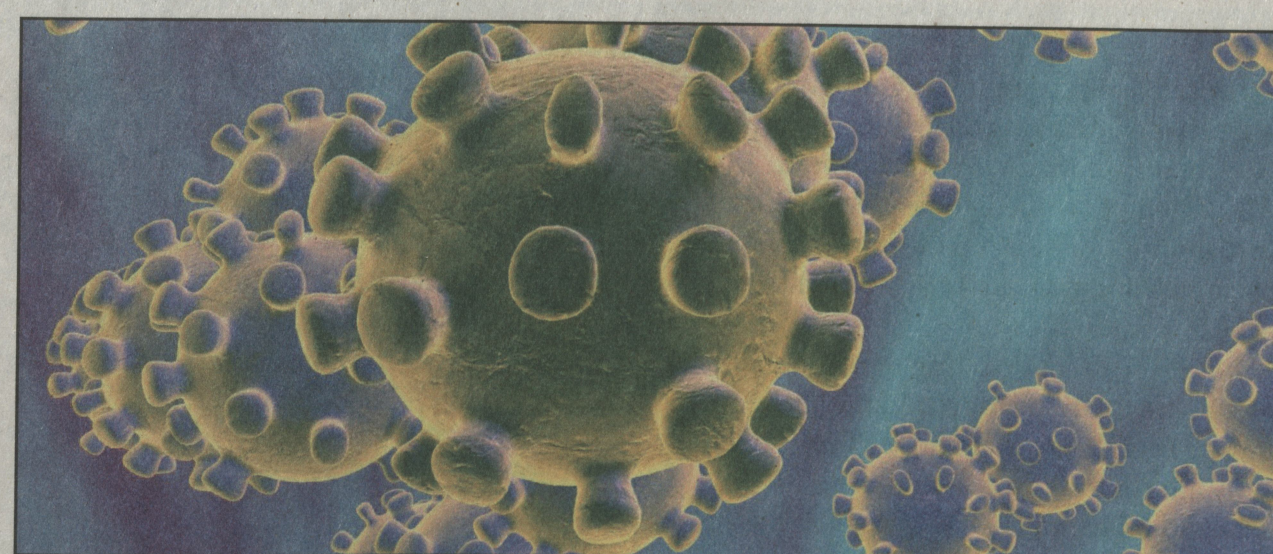
Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. Dane Foust is one of the creators of the new AOD strategic plan. Foust believes media plays a role in pressuring college students to drink so that they make the most of their "college experience."

"I think to a certain extent; the media plays a role in college drinking. Drinking is considered a rite of passage as part of coming to college. A lot of advertising companies play up on this and promote messages like, 'If you're not drinking our beer, you're not part cool,' and young people are seeing these messages all from when they are young children to adulthood," Foust said.

If you're someone who feels the pressure to drink but doesn't want to, just know that there

PREVENTION PLAN page 6

There are two viruses spreading in the U.S., and one is racism



CNN Image

By MELANIE RAIBLE/ Editorial editor

VIRUS-Stereotypes regarding Asians in the United States have been present since Asian immigrants first came to the country. Some of the worst treatment of Asian Americans in the United States occurred during World War II with the creation of Japanese internment camps as a supposed response to Pearl Harbor. After an executive order, anyone of Japanese descent living in the United States was forced into isolation camps.

tion camps.

The recent combination of economic and political tensions with the outbreak of the coronavirus has resurfaced racism against Asian Americans.

According to The Washington Post, there have been 63,000 cases of coronavirus reported in China. Many Chinese citizens are currently on lockdown in cities and more highly populated areas. The virus has also spread to people

outside of China, with at least 570 cases confirmed, according to CNN.

Countries including the United States are evacuating their citizens from the Wuhan region and are doing thorough testing upon arrival of all evacuation flights into the United States. According to The New York Times, there have only been 15 total confirmed cases of coronavirus within the United States and zero deaths due to the virus.

In response to the virus, Chinese authorities have placed citizens on lockdowns. Although it is important for airlines to cancel flights in and out of Wuhan and for governments to take appropriate public health action, precautions have erupted into fear.

Public fear is a huge drive behind xenophobia. As fear spreads, people become more susceptible to racist stereotypes and hatred. These defensive thoughts and behaviors can become toxic when they target a specific demographic.

You can scroll through Twitter right now and see thousands of racist comments directed toward Chinese people. Comments can be seen on social media about Asian cultural eating habits or spreading misinformation about coronavirus and how people become infected.

According to the New York Times, as RACISM page 7

Day in the life: Different majors, different days

By LAURA AMRHEIN / Staff writer

DAY IN THE LIFE—Arguably, one of the biggest stressors when going to college is choosing one's major. Not only does it select the career path for the rest of one's life, but it also determines how a student will spend their next four years.

Different majors often mean different schedules and experiences throughout college. Some majors require field placements, some internships and some require little time outside of class at all. For example, a nursing major and a business major have vastly different schedules each day.

Ryan Gorman, an information systems and management major, usually starts his day by waking up at ten in the morning each day, because he doesn't have class until around eleven or noon. He starts off his day by taking a shower and eating breakfast, which usually consists of either a protein bar or eggs and toast.

Unlike Gorman, nursing major Theresa Marcelino-Ton begins her day much earlier at around seven in the morning, starting with a bowl of cereal and plenty of coffee for breakfast.

"I eat breakfast and I normally just, like, mentally prepare myself for the amount of work that I have to get done. So, I like to listen to music, relax and deep breathe," Marcelino-Ton stated.

After getting ready and eating breakfast, Gorman walks to class, which usually takes about fifteen minutes, as he lives in University Park and is walking to Perdue Hall. He then has back-to-back classes, which usually last about three to four hours in total. Because of his course load, he doesn't normally eat lunch.

Marcelino-Ton must head to class rather early. Her first class on Tuesdays and Thursdays starts at seven or eight in the morning, and on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, her first class begins at nine. While her lectures usually last around fifty minutes each, Marcelino-Ton must also complete clinicals, which can last anywhere from four to eight hours.

Marcelino-Ton normally gets about a forty-five-minute lunch break on the days that she has her clinicals, and on days with regular class, she fits in lunch after her twelve o'clock lecture.

After class, Gorman usually contacts either his girlfriend or his friends to see if anyone



Laura Amrhein Image

wants to hang out. He usually hangs out with his friends until around six in the evening, when he eats dinner. He either goes to Commons or cooks for himself.

"If Commons has something good, I'll go to Commons. If not, [I'll eat] maybe like ramen noodles, [or] maybe if I'm feeling adventurous, chicken," Gorman stated.

After her classes, Marcelino-Ton often puts in work outside of the traditional lecture setting.

"We go to the skills lab, and we have to get our skills checked off, so there are a lot of extra hours that we have to go back into a lab or go back online and do our online quizzes or assignments," Marcelino-Ton stated.

After dinner, Gorman typically just relaxes, usually choosing to watch TV or Netflix. His homework load is rather light, though it is just the beginning of the semester. If he does have homework, Gorman states that he would probably do it before and after dinner.

"Right now, I haven't had any homework. Hopefully, I start having homework," Gorman stated.

Unlike Gorman, in the afternoons and evenings, Marcelino-Ton spends her time doing homework, usually until bed, though sometimes she has a club meeting. She typically has around four to five hours of homework to get done in order to prepare for clinicals and upcoming lectures. However, she states that her

homework can range from four to 12 hours per day, usually keeping her busy until she goes to bed.

"I try to squeeze in dinner just when I get hungry, but I usually eat dinner just while I'm working, because there's just not enough hours in the day. I also prioritize, like, seven hours of sleep, so I just have to combine a lot of things," Marcelino-Ton stated.

Despite Marcelino-Ton's extremely busy schedule, she states that she knew to expect a large workload and believes that the payoff will be worth it.

"I do know that nursing majors put in a lot of work, which was expected going into the program, so this is in no means complaining ... because there is a big goal we are working towards, becoming the best nurses. I think it is all worth it," Marcelino-Ton stated.

With different majors comes different schedules. It all comes down to one's goals and personal preferences. A nursing major may not be able to imagine taking business courses, and vice versa. When one chooses the major that is the right fit, the schedule that follows often is worth it.



Laura Amrhein Image



Prevention plan from page 5

are plenty of other students with this same mindset as you.

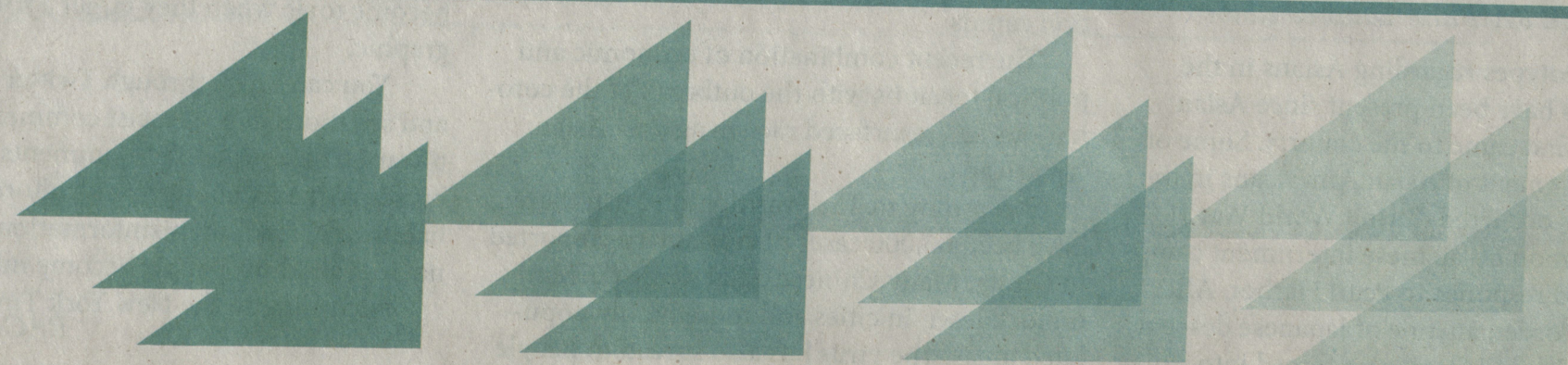
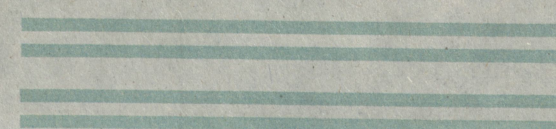
"We have also looked at data which indicates probably a third of our students come to SU with either they're not drinking, or they've only experienced very little with drinking," Foust explained. "So part of what we talk about with wellness and with student activities is providing alternatives to drinking as quickly as we possibly can, so that students understand that you may feel pressure to conform, pressure to go to parties, pressure to drink, but there are other things going on."

This article isn't supposed to convey the message that all drinking is bad and if you drink, you are automatically an alcoholic. Instead it's trying to shine light onto the fact that while drinking can be a fun and social event, it is also something that can bring extreme consequences to your life.

Always go about drinking in a safe manner, and if you are drinking, don't do it only because all of your friends are. Remember that there are so many alternatives you could take both on campus and off campus. And if you ever do find yourself in a scary situation and you or some-

one you know is intoxicated, don't be afraid to call for help.

"If a student is in trouble, and this goes for both drugs and alcohol, and somebody calls for help on their behalf, for example calls an R.A. or the police, they [the student] won't get in trouble with our conduct office ... Our goal is to make sure that they are safe rather than get them in trouble," Foust said.



10 cheap ways to spice up your dorm for the new semester

By SUSANNAH WILL / Staff writer

DIY—It's a new year, decade and most importantly, semester. A new dorm for the spring semester can be easy, cheap and fun! By using these tips, you can create a new room that will make both you and your wallet very happy.

Featured photos from Amazon, Pinterest, Crate and Barrel, Loveinhome and Tumblr



1. Fairy/ LED Lights

Not only are fairy lights super cute, but they can light up a dark dorm. Some even come with hooks to hang your pictures on and different light settings. The ones pictured below are on a copper wire, so you can bend them around a lamp or even your headboard.



2. Photo Collage

If you have a blank wall in your room and are not in the mood to buy an expensive tapestry or wall art, then a photo collage is a perfect option. This collage can be filled with any pictures you want and can add color and personality to a blank wall.



3. Throw Pillows

Who can say no to a cute throw pillow? They're both comfy and bring in great color and style to your room. Throw pillows are available almost everywhere and can even be thrifted to save some extra cash.



4. Tapestry

Another way to decorate a plain wall is with a tapestry. I got mine from Amazon. It filled up an entire wall in my room and brought a lot of color.



5. Plants

Whether they're real or fake, plants can make your room feel bright. For busy college students who spend a lot of their time out of their rooms, I would recommend investing in succulents. They give all the benefits of having a plant, but they're not as much maintenance.



6. Posters

They're another easy way to fill up blank wall space, and at the same time, express your interests. Maybe get a poster of your favorite band, movie or city.



7. Throw Blankets

Another thing to add to your bed is a new throw blanket. To ring in spring, you could opt for a pastel pink or blue. Having a throw blanket makes your bed look much more comfortable, and they help too if you get cold at night!



8. Letter Board

It can say whatever you want — your favorite movie scene or an inspirational quote to get you through the semester. If you want to, you can leave the letters out, and your friends can write a message when they come over.



9. Ivy Wall

This DIY is extremely easy and can bring a summer feel to your room. All you need is some fake ivy, LED lights and thumbtacks or Command Hooks.



10. DIY Wall Art

Instead of spending \$20 on a picture, why not make it yourself? You can even invite your friends over and have a painting night. All you need is a canvas, some brushes, paint and an inspiration picture.

Racism from page 5

#CoronavirusOutbreak tops Twitter's trending topics, sensationalized videos of East Asian people eating live rats, bats and frogs populate social media feeds alongside images of long lines and conflict in Chinese hospitals.

The challenging reality is that we must safeguard the public around the world without harboring racial stigma. Since the beginning of the spread of coronavirus, many Asians in different countries have experienced racist behaviors from others, including their fellow citizens, such as businesses turning down Asian customers.

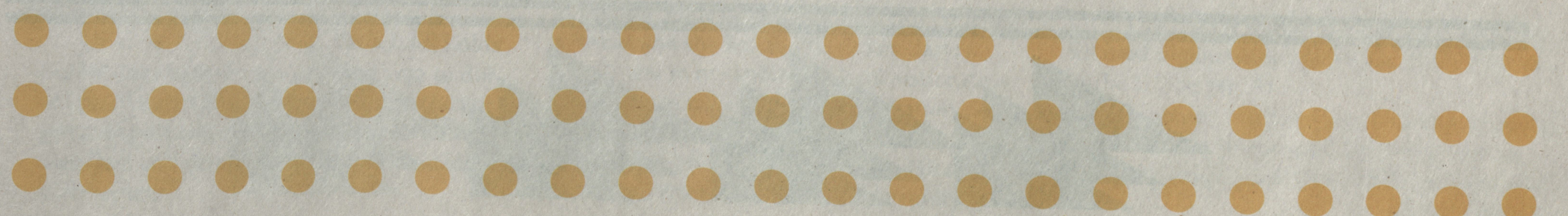
Shock value and chasing shares and likes

is insensitive to the seriousness of the spread of this virus, and it is inciting racism toward a specific demographic unjustifiably. Those living in China are most heavily affected by this health crisis. The spread of misinformation is also dangerous as the virus spreads because it will hinder advances of country-wide efforts, such as the CDC putting out information, to contain coronavirus and calm public fears.

There have only been less than 20 cases of coronavirus confirmed in the United States, yet many people are harboring fear toward Asian Americans. This reaction to coronavirus mimics the reaction to the 2003 outbreak

of the SARS virus. After reported SARS cases were found in the United States, many Chinese Americans reported that they were targets of racist abuse.

This outbreak is an important opportunity to address American culture and racism toward Asians through looking at prior events and responses involving Asian Americans. Fearing anyone who is Chinese and making racist comments is doing nothing but hurting efforts to address infection and public fear. Making assumptions and targeting a certain race is not going to alleviate the panic surrounding the virus or cure it.



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GULL LIFE

Salisbury University takes education majors to New Zealand

By CAROLINE STREETT/ Gull Life editor

NEW ZEALAND-For education majors, the biggest goal is to help mold the tiny minds of our future. At Salisbury University, students are given the opportunity to take that goal abroad, specifically to Hamilton, New Zealand.

The program is specifically designed for early childhood and elementary education majors. A lot of students know about the experience before they even get accepted into the program. Students at SU's Seidel School of Education are eligible to apply for the program after two years studying at the university.

The application process consists of an essay, an evaluation of the students' grades, followed by an interview and the recommendation of education professors.

Professor of education at SU Claudia Burgess recommends the study to all of her students in the elementary and early education track, so much so that she gives a presentation on the trip once a semester to encourage applicants.

Burgess highlighted that the application process consists of so many steps due to the importance that the student that is chosen will be representing not only SU, but also the state of Maryland and the U.S. as a whole.

"We really want people who have high quality work, who show initiative, who have a passion for education," Burgess said. "And students who really believe that this experience of interning in New Zealand will positively impact them in their future endeavors as a teacher."

Burgess emphasized that the university seeks out students who see the opportunity as a way of enhancing their education over just viewing it as a trip or vacation.

In delving into the reasons why she encourages her students to teach abroad in this foreign



Sydney Alexander Image

environment, Burgess reminisced on her own studies abroad and how those experiences have influenced and molded her as an educator.

"I came from a background myself where as a young person, I didn't travel really," Burgess said. "But at the age of 15, I represented my city in Japan as a foreign exchange student, and then I was a student exchange student for a year in Iceland, and it really changed my perspective of my own community; it changed my perspective of the world."

Burgess feels that her own time abroad has brought her benefits in her teaching career because it has made her more globally aware and open-minded toward different cultures.

"And I really want that for my students," Burgess said. "Today, we're dealing with more and more diverse populations in classrooms, and it helps for them I think to see the world

and to see differences in cultures so that they understand that better as a teacher."

As great an opportunity the study is, with any big change comes fears, and the introduction of an entire new culture and place can be a scary thought.

When presented with Burgess' presentation as a senior in high school, now recent SU graduate Sydney Alexander told her mom the she would never be taking that trip around the world to teach.

But come three years later, Alexander felt inspired and moved by the idea, and with the encouragement of Burgess and her parents, Alexander packed her bags and spent her final semester teaching in the homeland of scenic views, and she is so grateful she took that leap.

"I wanted to go mainly because it was kind of scary and it was a challenge, and I really

NEW ZEALAND page 10

There's a club for that at Salisbury University



Bury Motor Club / Annie Geitner Image

By ANNIE GEITNER/ Staff writer

Clubs are a place where, outside of the chaos and stress of schoolwork, you can unwind and have fun while getting to know peers with similar interests.

Seeing as that is an extremely broad definition, you might think, "Salisbury University would not offer something that suits my own interests."

However, each semester, the school holds the Student Activities Fair, which begs to differ. SU bears over 150 organizations, and the fair gives students the opportunity to recruit new members and drum up interest for student involvement.

Real live reenactments of Harry Potter's Quidditch? There's a club for that. Like to bike? There's a club for that. Passions for health and fitness? Yes, there's a club for that.

At this year's fair, organizations lined the halls and rooms of the Guerrieri Student Union, and each club gave away free swag and information on its organization. The Student Organization for Activity Planning even raffled off three VIP experience tickets for the opportunity to meet Josh Peck, who will be visiting SU on Feb. 29.

Whether or not you were in attendance, you could have easily missed some of the lesser-known organizations here on campus. Here are five student organizations that you may have missed at the fair:

SU Mural Club

The SU Mural Club is a new organization to SU. It was created in response to the vandalism that occurred last fall in Fulton Hall. SU senior Adde Grosse founded this club after a discussion she had in one of her classes.

"I was in my environmental justice class, and we were talking about the situation. Someone suggested we do a mural," Grosse said. As the only art major in that class, Grosse felt as though it was the perfect opportunity for her

to take a stand. The goal for this organization is to create a unifying response to what occurred last semester that represents how the student body feels and to also add a little color to the university.

Scorpion Wrestling

This club was started by SU sophomores Siobhan Martinez and Bruce Rismo last year. Since then, it has gained around three members who compete in dual meets and participate in practices on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8 to 9:45 off campus.

The Scorpion Wrestling Club functions as a team, but you do not need any wrestling experience to join. Mainly, this club is for both girls and guys who are interested in or already love wrestling, providing everyone with the opportunity to get some work in on the mat.

Black Students in STEM

This club is one of the many academically focused organizations that were in attendance at the fair on Jan. 31.

SU senior and president Chaniele Duhaney stated that the purpose of this group was "to bring the small minority of black students who

CLUBS page 10

New Zealand from page 9

wanted to push myself through that right before I graduated to make sure I knew I was ready for the real world," Alexander said. "And I was so proud that I did."

After her trip teaching abroad, Alexander emphasized that her experience in New Zealand is one that she will carry with her throughout her lifetime.

"College courses, and reading, and writing papers and sitting in a classroom ... that can only really teach you so much," Alexander said. "Immersing yourself into a completely different culture and an education system that you're unexperienced in taught me more than I had ever thought was possible."

Alexander highlighted that the school system in New Zealand held many differences than that of the system we have in America, and a lot of what she observed there she plans to bring into her own classroom one day.

Pointing out things ranging from accents, to curriculums, philosophies and no school buses, Alexander was often learning more than she was teaching.

"They are very student-centered; the students are being taught based on what they are interested in," Alexander said. "That's one thing I saw that was huge over in New Zealand that I will bring to my future classroom."

Whether she was teaching the students or experiencing the new country, Alexander was being moved emotionally and mentally.

With only two months spent at the school, Alexander dreading leaving, and so did her students. On her last day teaching, Alexander's class showered her in cards, friendship bracelets and a handmade quilt of memories.

"Just seeing the effort and the impact that I had on these students, because I was only there for two months and I was like, what could I



Sydney Alexander Image

really do in that short amount of time, I'm just some American girl coming in," Alexander said. "And that really proved to me that I did something, I touched these kids. And that was my favorite part of being a teacher, and I'm sure that that's every teacher's favorite part of the job when you realize you made an impact on these kids."

Students who are interested in taking that leap and applying for the internship abroad should seek out applications this February.

For those students in the Seidel School who are hesitant to take that chance and study around the world, Alexander emphasized that they should push themselves to do it, because she's so glad that she did.

"I hope even just one education major reads this and is like, 'Okay, this is what I needed, I'm going,' because I just want to shake all of them and say push yourself, do this," Alexander said. "You've got to do it because you learn so much while you're over there."

For more information on the study, contact Burgess or stop by the Janet Dudley-Eshbach Center for International Education at 1106 Camden Ave.

The Traveling Flock: Salisbury University students go abroad

By STEPHANIE RIVERA / Staff writer

Three-hour lectures, labs and studying among the same boring classrooms day in and day out can get old quickly.

The ancient texts you read about in a textbook are just simply not as exciting as the real thing. Imagine packing your bags and flying across the country to the place of origin, to truly immerse yourself in that culture. Well, at Salisbury University, you don't have to imagine it. You can do it.

SU is committed to making your years here at school as culturally immersive as possible, and with a wide variety of educational programs around the globe, ranging from London to Hong Kong, the opportunities and places you'll go are endless.

Despite the exciting opportunity to study abroad, many students turn it down due to time constraints of graduation or jobs and concerns of the costs involved. SU provides a median solution to this issue through its winter and summer abroad program, in which the participating students travel for a "mini-semester."

SU senior Julia Barrett is one of the many students to capitalize on the advantageous abroad program. In the summer of 2019, Barrett embarked to the country of Peru and was able to fulfill her scholarly requirements in ways she didn't previously think were possible.

Students who are looking into the pathway of studying abroad are fearful of their studies not being adequately fulfilled; however, Barrett found that the course she took fulfilled her in ways SU had not.

As an international relations major and Spanish minor, Barrett took courses within the realm of political science and Spanish. Barrett found that she was able to understand a completely new perspective on both of these subjects.

"The ability to learn Spanish from native speakers helped me more fully immerse myself in the language," Barrett said. Barrett also discussed the difference within the curriculum of her political science course. "The course was taught from the Latin American political spectrum, which led me to a better understanding of global politics," Barrett said.

Though students are blessed to be able to study historical sites and the effects they have on their remaining people, the ability to view these firsthand is seemingly incomparable.

Barrett found herself to be enthralled with the Peruvian culture and divulged that she was able to connect to her minor in Spanish at a more intimate firsthand basis. With a particular interest in the ancient civilization of Machu Picchu, Barrett's hike to the overlook of the town only reinforced her admiration. "Although I spent years reading on Machu Picchu, the ability to be exposed to its origin and the surrounding culture has given me a whole new understanding of the country and its inhabitants," Barrett said.

The skills that are absorbed by students who

ABROAD page 11

Salisbury University graduates share their definitions of art

By CAROLINE STREETT / Gull Life editor

ART-The Oxford English Dictionary defines art as "the expression or application of human creative skill and imagination, typically in a visual form such as painting or sculpture, producing works to be appreciated primarily for their beauty or emotional power."

For these recent Salisbury University graduates, they each found their muses for their art in different ways in pulling from their own thoughts, experiences and emotions of the world around them.

The students' collections were on display for the public in SU's Downtown Art Gallery for a brief period in December. The students expressed that the exhibit was the product of the hours spent studying, creating and learning at SU, and by means of expression, it conveyed how each student defined their art in a unique way.

SU graduate and hot glass major Blaine Steiner was not initially a liberal arts student. Originally coming to SU with an inclination for biology, Steiner spent four years studying science when her true calling came to her in the elective glass blowing.

Though she changed her major, she does feel that the part of her that spent so much time learning about organisms in the natural world has made its way into her art.

Steiner's display of work at SU's Downtown Art Gallery consisted of glass sculptures suspended from the ceiling, along with sculptures and panels working with both metal and natural materials.

Steiner explained that her work was centered around the concept of dichotomy and the relationship that a material can have with itself.

"What I love about glass is its ability to be incredibly fragile like the panels or really tough like the cast glass," Steiner said. "So, I love that



Caroline Streett Image

conversation between the two parts of it, and I wanted to make a body of work that really showed the range of what glass can do."

While pulling from her knowledge of her background in biology, Steiner explained that a big part of her art is also about her desire to surprise people.

One piece that Steiner held pride in producing this element of surprise in her current collection was a snowflake sculpture.

The sculpture, symmetrical and porcelain white like a real snowflake, was, however, not made with the delicate resources that one would normally associate with the snow-fallen precipitation.

"One thing I really love doing is messing with the viewer and their preconceived notions of beauty," Steiner said. "I love making these beautiful objects where you want to get closer to them and look at them, but it's [a] snowflake made of coyote skulls."

Steiner aims to create work like the snowflake that provoke deeper thought and question the ideas that society instills in us. Her definition of art is shown in her intent behind her pieces.

"Like, why do you find it beautiful and do you still find it beautiful when you find out it's made of dead animals?" Steiner said.

Similar to Steiner, SU graduate and painting major Marley Parsons found the inspiration for her collection to come from nature and her own experiences as well.

But Parsons' true muse was not initially the reaction she would evoke from others, but her own personal love for her home on the Eastern Shore.

Parson's collection was a series of pastel paintings and resin plants and flora from Assateague Island. She explained her inspiration behind the pieces, highlighting the emotions

ART GRADUATES page 12

Clubs at SU from page 9

are in STEM classes together and to just have a place for them to commune, socialize and study together."

This club has been around for a year, and it currently has a new meeting place. It will now meet weekly in Henson Room 123 on Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

Salisbury eSports

SU student Garret Shindle is the president of the newly founded eSports club here at SU. He and a couple of friends wanted to play some tournaments, but they all required some sort of organization in order to enter. Shindle felt the best way to go about the issue was to form a club.

"We figured that not only would we want to do it, but there was probably a lot of people on campus who would enjoy being able to compete with other people," Shindle said.

The club offers strategy games as well as "Rocket League" and "League of Legends" with the new partnership with Salisbury Intramurals.

Each game has a captain that sets up weekly meetings or practices, tryouts and determines final rosters. This semester, tournaments will be about once a week, with surprise prizes for the winning team.

Bury Motor Club

Lastly on the list of clubs you may not have known there was a club for is the Bury Motor Club.

Put simply, the Bury Motor Club is for people who love motors — any kind of motors. Co-Founder and President of the Bury Motor Club Nicholas Teti says the club does not discriminate.

"All cars, motorcycles, trucks, jeeps, you name it," Teti said.

Teti talked about how the club does car meet-ups here on campus as well as in Ocean City and Assateague Island. Everyone's car is lined up, and members are social and walking around looking at the different sort of automobiles.

The main goal of this club is to teach people about their cars and how to work on them, as well as promoting diversity in the car community.

For more information on the wide variety of clubs that SU offers, head to the Student Activities Office in the Guerrieri Student Union.

Abroad from page 10



SU Students Image

participate in these trips have the ability to not only advance your scholarly abilities, but are ones that can be exercised throughout your career pathway.

SU senior Eva Fialkowski accompanied Barrett in the study abroad to Peru, and she found the trip to be beneficial to future career plans.

After graduation, Fialkowski plans to pursue a pathway in teaching English as a second or foreign language to students, and she found that her studies in Peru were advantageous in ways that our university could not solely provide.

"As a future ESOL teacher, I am now able to communicate with my Spanish-speaking students during my SU student teaching internship," Fialkowski said. "I find myself using the language more than I thought I would in the United States and helping my students to acclimate to a new culture and language."

Whether one is posing with alpacas or hiking up mountain peaks, the ability to interact with people of differing cultures tends to invoke lifelong skills.

The idea of going into a foreign country with no connection to the inhabitants or culture was the cohesive fear among some students who have not been abroad. Although the idea of this can be frightening, students such as Kayla McGinn found that the experiences that are absorbed within are incomparable to the apprehension she held.

McGinn spent winter break of 2020 traveling throughout Costa Rica and found that nothing could replace the experiences she and her classmates underwent.

One particularly memorable experience McGinn recalled was her hike to Monteverde, which is known as the "Forest of Clouds."

The pictures that were taken among her classmates are seemingly incomparable to the

true beauty of the landscape, as she states that nothing could trump the view of a world that was so different from her own.

Many students are on the fence on the decision to study abroad, and if you are one of those people, this article could be your deciding factor.

SU student McKayla Lyons, who over winter break traveled to Cuba, puts these fears to rest when asked of her decision.

"Studying in Cuba gave me the opportunity to experience the world in a way that was foreign to my everyday life, and anyone who is debating on traveling should go for it," Lyons said.

This decision is not one to be taken lightly and likely fills up the brain with questions to debate. Don't fear! Contact the Salisbury University Senior Study Abroad Adviser Ronald Dziwenka at rjdzienka@salisbury.edu or call 410-677-5027. Safe travels!

SU senior helps design new software for NASA

By JARED SHEMONSKY / Staff writer

NASA-Shannon Bull, a computer science and applied math double major and a senior at Salisbury University, is paving the way NASA thinks about rocket launches.

Bull and her team of four at the NASA Wallops Flight Facility are developing new mission graphics replacement software that predicts how safe the rocket trajectory is upon take-off and flight.

This software is designed for the Safety Range Officers in the range control center. Bull describes the SROs as "the guys with two big red buttons that arm and destruct the rocket if anything goes wrong."

To get into the specifics, Bull is designing software that mainstreams the ancient programs NASA already has to assess the rocket data.

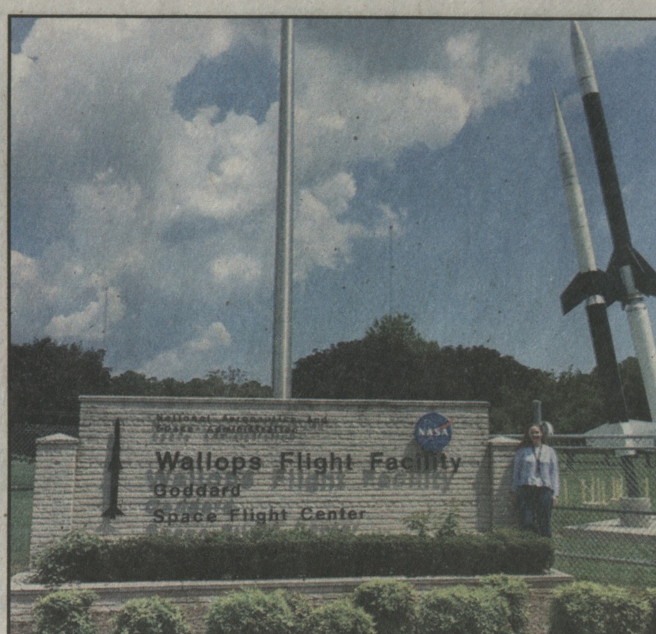
"The system is like 30 years old, the hardware isn't even made anymore, so people have to scour eBay or Craigslist for parts," Bull said. For two years, Bull has been designing the new software by practicing on launches that go on periodically at Wallops to perfect the more commonsensical tools she's adding to the program.

Bull highlights that her main initiative is to make the data that the rocket collects more user-friendly.

"I plan to update the graphics," Bull said. "The current data is just listed out in alphanumeric, making it difficult to understand, so I've added strip charts and color-coded threshold limits so we can visualize the data in an adequate and efficient way."

Bull plans to use her new software side-by-side to the original software on the upcoming Antares rocket launch that was originally supposed to launch Feb. 9, but was delayed until the following Saturday due to high winds.

Bull's team's software is in the preliminary stages, so it won't be directly implemented. But, it'll run live next to it to compare the data she



Senior Shannon Bull poses in front of the entrance to the Wallops Flight Facility / Shannon Bull Image

collects to the data the original software collects.

"The original software is going to be the one that's officially used because mine hasn't been safety tested yet, but mine's going to be in the room next to theirs, where anyone in the range can come in and watch," Bull said. "It's going to track the rocket to make sure everything is going all right."

In regard to launch day, Bull talked about the excitement and energy that encompasses the station.

With proper weather and the help of Bull's technology, SA Wallops first rocket launch of 2020 was designated a success. Lifting off on Feb. 15, the Northrop Grumman Antares rocket departed from Wallops to make its journey to outer space.

"Usually, everyone is super nice with typical Eastern Shore comfort, but on launch day, everyone is formal and dressed up," Bull said. "It's really cool to see the difference. For example, you get to hear the launch sequence, even if it's from my cubicle in the corner. It's like: RSO

to TD, is everything ready?"

While Bull has been working on this project for two years, her start at NASA was much more toned down than her semi-independent position that she has now.

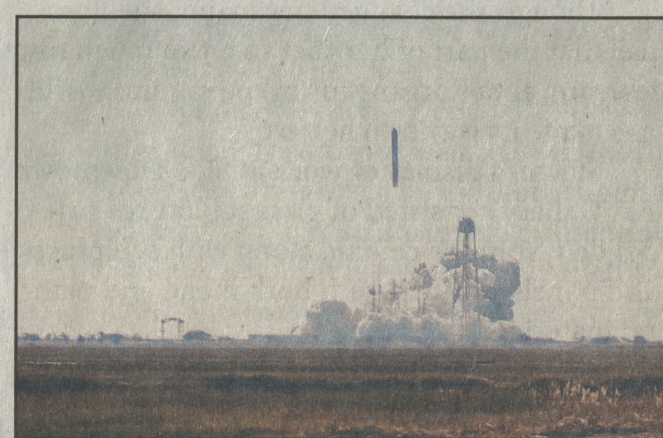
Bull explained her somewhat unique internship and how it progressed to the point she is at today.

"When I started, I had a mentor, and now I'm a different type of intern. There are normal interns, and there are pathways interns, which are real government employees, which is what I am now," Bull said. "So now I'm kind of on my own."

Bull has been working at NASA for two years, and the project plans to complete in 2022.

As she's graduating, Bull has to make the decision to stay or to move onto other software engineering opportunities.

In whatever she does, Bull's studies will take her beyond this planet and into outer space, designing and implementing software that changes the way our world operates.



Wallops space launch from 2018 / Amy Wojtowicz Image

SU art graduates from page 11

and connection she holds to the pieces.

"I'm born and raised here. I live five minutes away, so that's somewhere in my heart, and that's always kind of been somewhere that my heart is," Parsons said. "And I'm moving in two weeks, so I figured that would be a great way to end my career here, kind of appreciating where I came from."

Along with her personal ties to the pieces, Parsons also tried to highlight the changes in our natural world and how climate change is impacting the local nature.

"My paintings are about landscapes at Assateague. I actually resin plants that I took from there onto glass so you could see through them," Parsons said. "So, I did the transparency of climate change and the effects that Assateague is getting from the environment."

Highlighting both influences of society and personal motivations of empowerment and technology, SU graduate and graphic design major Stephanie Stuehler defined art by way of fashion and media.

Motivated by the latest trends in pop culture, Stuehler's collection in the gallery consisted of an entire interior design of her allotted space with wallpaper, mirrors, signs and décor that she found to be expressive of her work and aesthetically pleasing.

Along with her interior design, Stuehler displayed a collection of fashion pieces ranging from jean jackets to purses, hats and more.

Stuehler explained her inspiration, highlighting a personal love for creating to guide her.



Caroline Streett Image

"I like to make my own clothing as well as my own graphics work," Stuehler said. "So, I like to combine them both, and I like to think about a lot of pop culture and infuse that, trendy designs and stuff like that."

Stuehler went on to explain her passion for graphic design, highlighting that it is always evolving, fast-paced and changing with the times.

After their graduation, these seniors have gone on to pursue dreams of creative jobs or plans for graduate school all in line with their aspirations of continuing their love for the arts, whether it be in sculpting, painting or graphic design.

The graduates accredit their time at SU to be an element aiding in their success and future endeavors, and they each plan to take their experiences and practices learned in the classroom with them as they continue to expand the true definition of art and the impact it can have on the world around them.

"I realized that there was this thing I wanted to do all the time, and it just made me a much better version of myself," Steiner said. "And since then, I can't imagine not doing this with my life."



Caroline Streett Image

SPORTS

Salisbury's pole vaulter leaping towards NCAA championships



Zachary Stump vaults over the bar at a track and field meet / Sports Information Image

By NICK LEWIS / Sports editor

TRACK-Zachary Stump has been setting Salisbury University records — and breaking them — throughout the 2019-20 outdoor track and field season.

But most teenagers don't have a burning desire to pole vault. Stump had mostly played team sports, but decided they might not be a good fit for him at the high school level.

"I was playing all contact sports in middle school, but I was going into high school at five foot, 120 pounds," Stump said. "I was a bit too small to be playing contact sports."

After some consideration, he decided to try out cross country and track and field.

When he went to try out, though, he was reminded of a memory from his earlier years.

"A long time ago, back in elementary and middle school, I used to go out in the woods behind my house with one of my neighbors, and there was a pretty big stream," Stump said. "So just having fun, we would take big, long sticks and jump across the stream with them."

"When I got to track, I realized that jumping with big sticks is actually an event, so I decided to try it out, and I've loved it ever since."

This move has paid off for both Stump and Salisbury, but Stump's collegiate career did not begin in the maroon and gold.

When Stump graduated from Liberty High School, he chose the University of South Carolina and hoped to walk-on for the track and field team.

Stump, a former state champion with a jump of 14 feet, made the choice after a few months to return home and attend a school closer to home: Salisbury. He joined the track and field team, and after arriving on campus, was quickly faced with an indoor meet.

At the event, despite having almost a year off from track and field, Stump landed at 13 feet, 9.25 inches.

He nearly reached his peak from high school despite being away from jumping for almost a year.

Salisbury Track and Field Head Coach Jim Jones said he knew Stump had the potential to do something great from his first time on the SU track.

"Right away, the first day of practice, we could tell there was something special that was gonna happen," Jones said.

As the season went on, Stump continued to improve and get more comfortable with the pole in his hands.

By the end of the year, Stump said he was feeling more confident, but eager to get a full offseason of preparation under his belt before his first full season as a Sea Gull.

"This season, it's been really nice to actually hit the ground running, have preseason conditioning under my belt, winter break training under my belt, everything like that," Stump said. "It's been a lot of fun. We have a great team atmosphere, and it's been fun to go out

STUMP page 14

Salisbury volleyball star reflects on internship with Philadelphia Eagles

By DANIELLE TYLER / Staff writer

INTERNSHIPS-In the summer of 2019, a Sea Gull flew with the Eagles.

Salisbury volleyball's reigning Capital Athletic Conference Defensive Player of the Year Hailey Dougherty landed an internship for the Philadelphia Eagles in the summer of 2019.

When Dougherty was applying for marketing internships for her senior year, she stumbled across a marketing internship for the Eagles. She knew she had to jump on it fast in order to get a position.

In the fall of 2018, Dougherty had a webcam interview with the Eagles' marketing management team.

She had to answer a set of questions explaining who she was and why she was interested in interning for the Eagles.

Dougherty said most of her internships required remote interviews, something she was less than comfortable with.

"I was applying for a lot of internships for that summer, and a lot of them were webcam-based," Dougherty said. "I applied for Under Armor, and that was webcam-based. You just record yourself answering questions, and it was a little awkward."

But shortly after this webcam interview, Dougherty was asked to come to Lincoln Financial Field, the Eagles' home stadium, for a second interview.

In January of 2019, Dougherty found out she was accepted for the internship.



Hailey Dougherty stands inside Lincoln Financial Field / Hailey Dougherty Image

The internship began in May and ended the second week of August. Dougherty worked in the fan services department of the stadium.

She worked Monday to Friday, answering phone calls and emails every day from a variety of different customers. She also helped communicate with those booking the stadium for various events.

Dougherty is a marketing major with a minor in communications, while she said the other interns were mostly majoring in sports

management. She said that despite the work not being aligned with her major, she felt she was able to use the experience to develop her communication skills further and take a step out of her comfort zone.

"It was really different for me, but I thought it was a really cool opportunity," Dougherty said. "I think it helped me more with my communication skills, and it wasn't a marketing internship per say, but I gained so much experi-

DOUGHERTY page 14

Q&A: Men's lacrosse coach Jim Berkman

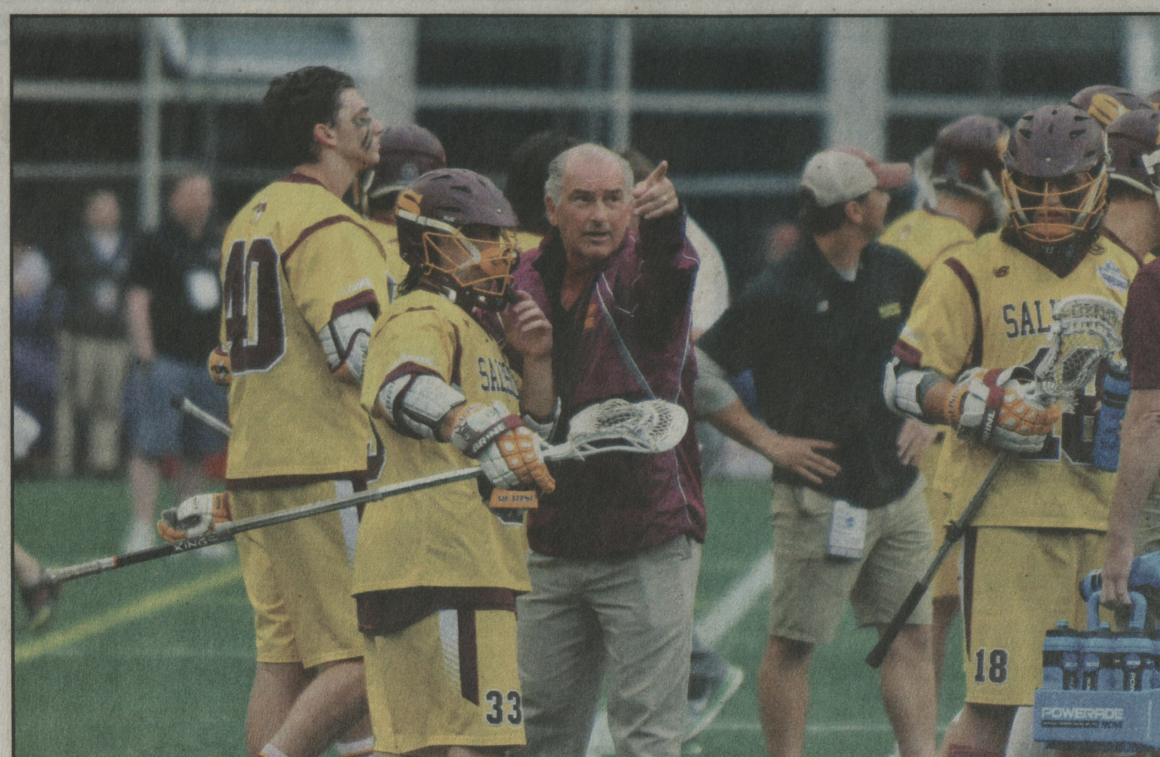
By NICK LEWIS / Sports editor

BERKMAN-Jim Berkman is the head coach for the Salisbury University men's lacrosse team. He enters his 32nd year at the helm for the maroon and gold.

Berkman is the all-time winningest coach in NCAA men's lacrosse history with 555 career victories as a head coach. He was also inducted into the National Lacrosse Hall of Fame in 2013.

The Salisbury men's lacrosse team looks to continue its journey for the 13th national championship of Berkman's tenure in 2020.

The Flyer had the chance to sit down with Berkman and discuss Division III lacrosse, local eateries, the lacrosse team's pregame ritual and more.



Jim Berkman directs his players on the sideline during a lacrosse game / Sports Information Image

Q: What have been some key factors in continuing your success over the decades?

When I first got here, nobody was really recruiting in 1989. Not a lot of junior college players were getting recruited, especially to the Division III level. We were able to jump on that bandwagon and get several kids really early in my tenure that complemented great freshman classes that really helped us upgrade our program's talent level.

Then I think the next big thing was our first championship in '91. That's the pinnacle in our sport. Once you've been there, you're dying to go back. That kind of mindset has existed here really since 1991, because every kid here in the last 23 years has won a national championship. Several classes at any given time have been there and are driving themselves harder and their teammates harder because they know they only have a four-year window to get back.

Another thing, not only for myself, is that continuity in Division III athletics is one of the keys to success if it's good continuity. You have coaches who not only came through the system and bleed maroon and gold, but know the system as well as I do, and that really leads to success too. I would say over the last seven or eight years, the captain thing has turned into a competition, not to be captain, but to outdo the previous captains. This year, after 32 years of virtually doing the same four strength tests, our kids passed at the highest level in the history of the program. That's a tribute to the captains and the preparation that's going on behind the scenes.

Q: What are some advantages to having the facilities and campus of Salisbury?

As we move forward into the next decade, the arms race has trickled down from Division I all the way to Division III, so having a facility that opens people's eyes as far as the stadium goes and a locker room that rivals anything is a really big step that allows us to continue to

compete. Having a great academic institution, which we weren't known for 15 years ago but now are, not only makes it a lot more attractive to a lot more student-athletes, but it also really helps our retention rate because our students are much better students. Sometimes, especially in the recruiting wars in the day and age of social media, it's almost like show-and-tell, and we can show and tell now with the new library, the new business school and all the other new things on campus.

Q: Where do you like to eat around Salisbury?

I'm not a big eater. One of my things is I'm a salad guy. We were on the road for our first game on Sunday, we were eating at Golden Corral and everybody's chowing down, and what's coach Berkman have? He has two salads. I'm not a dessert guy, I like to go to Adam's [Taphouse Grille], who's the go-to for the Sea Gulls and have their chopped salad, I like to go to Specific Gravity. That's my bike club place where our bikers hang out when we ride bikes on the weekends, and again, my go-to there is their chopped salad.

Q: What are your favorite sports teams?

I can remember I was sitting on the couch with my dad when I was six or seven years old in the mid-60's, and it was always the Packers and the Cowboys and Bart Starr. I can remember all the way back when Tom Brown, who's a local legend, was playing d-back, and that's when I became a Packers fan. It wasn't a Brett Favre thing or anything else, it was a Bart Starr thing, not that I'm a huge fan, but I'm always looking to see what the Packers do on Mondays and was rooting for them in the playoffs.

When I grew up in upstate New York, I played a lot of hockey. It was kind of one of my things, and back then, I was a Bobby Orr fan, and I still kind of like the Bruins. I'm not a Caps fan or a Ravens fan.

I grew up a Knick fan, but it's been really tough to be a Knick fan for a long time now. With all the recent things, I guess I'm a Warrior fan now, with how free-spirited those guys played, and they play without a conscience. We try to teach our guys. One of the things we always talk about is playing without a conscience because it opens their mind and doesn't get people worried about making mistakes.

Q: What's with the pregame chant?

Obviously, we have the pregame ritual that started way back in the 90's with the chant. It's a pretty cool thing that was started by Andrew Harris, who actually was a guy who had been in the Marines before he came here. On the other side of our practice field, there's these huge trees that were planted in 1989, and they were little [saplings] that were about two foot high. They created this natural barrier about 10 feet from where they were planted in the fence, and it made it a great track. We used to run between the [saplings] and the fence all the way down, and we used to be able to run around the softball field and follow it back up the side. It was a pretty big loop, close to doing about a half mile. We used to do Indian running, when the guy in the back sprints to the front, everyone is jogging a slow jog, the guy gets to the front and yells 'Go,' and the next guy takes off. Well, one day, unbeknownst to me, they start running, and all of a sudden, Andrew starts doing one of his military things and gets the guys repeating after him. That evolved into what's now the chant.

Dougherty from page 13

ence from it."

But not everything was smooth sailing for Dougherty in her time at the Linc. There was one significant conflict that happened when the Eagles and Lincoln Financial Field transitioned to mobile ticketing.

Dougherty said several customers would call in regularly with complaints about not being able to access their tickets. She said this created some conflict within the office.

"The mobile ticketing aspect as a whole was a lot, especially during the summer, because that's when it got really busy," Dougherty said. "So, getting yelled at a lot [by the fans we had to say that] it was from our supervisors, it was from up top, and we had to just follow through with it and figure out what works for the customers."

What helped Dougherty the most with these

conflicts were her supervisors and other interns she was working with. If she had a question, she would turn to them for help, taking the best course of action.

She said the guidance of other staff members helped her communicate conflicts and how to work through them.

"I worked with about 10 to 12 other interns, so we were all doing the same thing," Dougherty said. "So, being able to turn to them and say, 'Hey, how did you deal with this situation, what did you say to them?' so the conflicts were easily handled."

Dougherty said that the experience also improved her communication skills by being able to listen to what people say and learning how to handle different types of people.

Although she experienced conflicts, the internship increased her problem-solving strat-

egies and helped her be versatile in different situations.

Dougherty's favorite aspect of the internship was getting the chance to network with people and keep her relationships with the other interns. She gained friends from all over and keeps in touch with them today.

"I will never forget about being at training camp. That was one of the most amazing experiences," Dougherty said. "But, my fellow interns, we still talk a lot and are kind of all in the same fields, so the people I've met through my internship was the best part."

Stump from page 13

there and jump high."

This transition from getting used to pole vaulting again to breaking school records took time. There were issues of form, technique and fitness that needed to be addressed.

Jones said clearing these hurdles has vaulted Stump into the success he has had this season.

"It's like riding a bicycle," Jones said. "He was a little rusty, but as he got in better shape and worked on his technique. Toward the end of the year, he really started to blossom."

At the conclusion of the 2018-19 outdoor season, Stump finished just short of qualifying for the NCAA Division III Outdoor Track & Field Championships.

This season, he has set the indoor school record three times, breaking the Capital Ath-

letic Conference pole vault record at 15 feet, 1.5 inch at the Eastern Shore Combine at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore.

This new record also sits at 16th in all of Division III.

In each of his record-setting performances, Stump was named the CAC Field Athlete of the Week. While he said the awards are always nice, Stump has bigger goals in mind as the year continues.

"The big goal would be to jump 16 feet in indoor," Stump said. "That'd be really impressive if I could do that ... obviously to keep breaking the school record, keep setting new PRs ... and if I could make nationals, that would be incredible."

Jones said Stump has a legitimate shot at the big stage if he continues what he's been able to do this season both indoors and outdoors.

Jones also noted the growth he has seen

from Stump during this indoor season and the potential for an even stronger campaign outdoors when March rolls around.

"I mean, he's now only about six inches away from what he jumped outdoors last year," Jones said. "So, if he can surpass that indoors, who knows what he can do outdoors?"

Reaching the championship in either the indoor or outdoor seasons would be a significant accomplishment for both Stump and the Salisbury track and field team, which has seen its fair share of talented athletes over the years.

With a chance to reach the heights Stump failed to last season, Jones said this would be another important moment in the track and field program's history.

"It would mean a lot," Jones said. "I feel I could take him and a few others on our team to any meet in the country ... and they would compete very, very well. When you get to that

THIS MONTH'S SPORTS SCHEDULE:

MEN'S BASEBALL:

WED. FEB 19 @ HOME VS. IMMACULATA, 2:30 PM
SAT. FEB 22 @ HOME VS. CORTLAND, 1 PM
SUN. FEB 23 @ HOME VS. CORTLAND, 12 PM
SUN. MAR 1 @ HOME VS. OSWEGO, 12 PM
SUN. MAR 8 @ HOME VS. JOHNS HOPKINS, 1 PM
WED. MAR 11 @ HOME VS. STEVENSON, 2:30 PM
THU. MAR 12 @ HOME VS. SHENANDOAH, 2:30 PM
SUN. MAR 15 @ HOME VS. PENN ST. HARRISBURG, 2 PM
THU. MAR 19 @ HOME VS. MARYMOUNT, 3 PM

MEN'S LACROSSE:

MON. MAR 9 @ HOME VS. RHODES, 7 PM
SAT. MAR 14 @ HOME VS. CORTLAND, 2 PM
TUES. MAR 17 @ HOME VS. GENESEO, 7 PM

MEN'S TENNIS:

SAT. FEB 22 @ HOME VS. VA. WESLEYAN, 10 AM
SAT. FEB 22 @ HOME VS. METHODIST, 2 PM
SUN. FEB 23 @ HOME VS. GOUCHER, 2 PM
MON. FEB 24 @ HOME VS. WASHINGTON AND LEE, 4 PM
FRI. FEB. 28 @ HOME VS. NC. WESLEYAN, 4 PM
SAT. MAR 7 @ HOME VS. STEVENS, 10 AM

TRACK AND FIELD:

SAT. MAR 7 @ HOME, LLOYD SIGLER SPRING MEET, 11 AM

GO SEA GULLS!!!!

WOMEN'S SOFTBALL:

SAT. FEB 22 @ HOME VS. DE SALES, 10 AM
SAT. FEB 22 @ HOME VS. HOOD, 12 PM
SUN. FEB 23 @ HOME VS. DE SALES, 12 PM
SUN FEB 23 @ HOME VS. HOOD, 2 PM
WED. FEB 26 @ HOME VS. VA. WESLEYAN, 1:30, 3:30 PM
SAT. FEB 29 @ HOME VS. ONEONTA, 10 AM
SAT. FEB 29 @ HOME VS. CLARKSON, 12 PM
SUN. MAR 1 @ HOME VS. CLARKSON, 12 PM
SUN. MAR 1 @ HOME VS. ONEONTA, 2 PM
SAT. MAR 7 @ HOME VS. CORTLAND, 12, 2 PM
SUN. MAR 8 @ HOME VS. TCNJ, 12, 2 PM
MON. MAR 9 @ HOME VS. LYNCHBURG, 12, 2 PM
FRI. MAR 13 @ HOME S. WESLEY, 2, 4 PM

WOMEN'S LACROSSE:

SAT. FEB 22 @ HOME VS. CATHOLIC, 1 PM
SUN. MAR 1 @ HOME VS. WASHINGTON AND LEE, 12 PM
WED. MAR 4 @ HOME VS. ROWAN, 4 PM
WED. MAR 11 @ HOME VS. GETTYSBURG, 4 PM
SAT. MAR 14 @ HOME VS. BROCKPORT, 11 AM

WOMEN'S TENNIS:

FRI. FEB 21 @ HOME VS. CATHOLIC, 4 PM
SAT. FEB 29 @ HOME VS. NC. WESLEYAN, 10 AM
SAT. MAR 7 @ HOME VS. STEVENS, 10 AM

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL:

WED. FEB 19 @ HOME VS. MARY WASHINGTON, 6 PM

WANT TO WRITE FOR NEWS?

**CONTACT NICK LEWIS FOR
INFORMATION**

Retiring softball coach leaves a lasting impact on players



Margie Knight congratulates her team by the dugout / Sports Information Image

By DANIELLE TYLER/ Staff writer

KNIGHT-Salisbury University Softball Head Coach Margie Knight will be retiring after the 2020 season.

After being devoted to her players for 23 years, Knight said it is time for her to move forward and do other things.

"There's times where I haven't been able to be with my family, or friends even, because this job is very demanding," Knight said. "When you're in season, you are in season, and I loved it, but it's just time."

Many upperclassmen on the team look back fondly on their experiences as a Sea Gull under Knight's tutelage.

Senior infielder and catcher Emily Allen was named to the All-CAC Second Team in the 2017-2018 season and will have played all four years under Knight at the end of this year. Allen said she will miss Knight's sense of humor and her passion for the game.

Allen said she will remember how Knight taught her how to use softball as her outlet to put outside distractions aside.

"For me, it was really hard to come here

and not have outside factors influencing practice or games," Allen said. "Coach Knight definitely taught me how to love softball and that this is my fun time of the day, to forget everything else and just be in the moment."

In 2018, senior midfielder Dakotah Fraley was selected to the National Fastpitch Coaches Association All-Atlantic Region Second Team and All-CAC Second Team. That same year, Knight was inducted into the NFCA Hall of Fame as a member of the 2018 class.

Fraley transferred to Salisbury University in her sophomore year after playing one season of Division II softball at Lincoln Memorial University.

Fraley said that Knight is the reason she fell back in love with the game. She said that before she arrived at SU, she had lost the love she once felt for softball.

"Through the years, coach Knight has definitely taught me a lot. She taught me that it is important to have fun while playing," Fraley said. "I think I lost that for a little bit, from my transition to here, and she reminded me that no matter where you are, you can always have fun

and enjoy playing the game."

Fraley also said Knight focused on checking on her players regularly and making sure that everything in like was doing okay, not just softball.

As a Salisbury student, Knight was a team captain for women's softball, basketball and volleyball for two years.

Prior to the start of the 2020 season, Knight has assembled an overall record of 829-206-2. She also sits at 11th in all-time winning percentage across all NCAA divisions.

Knight has led her Gulls to three NCAA Finals, nine College World Series appearances and 20 NCAA Tournaments.

Knight has coached 38 All-Americans, 116 All-Region players and 184 All-CAC selections.

Not only did Knight coach softball, she also was the head coach for Salisbury's volleyball team from 1997-2012. With Knight at the reins, the volleyball team won eight CAC Championships and played in eight NCAA Tournaments.

She was inducted into the Salisbury Athletics Hall of Fame in 1995 and the Maryland State Softball Hall of Fame in 2008.

Knight said that it was her dream job to work at Salisbury, a place that has held significance in her life for a long time.

"I'm also very fortunate to stay here for so long and have so much success, so to me, it's a dream come true," Knight said. "Not many people can say they enjoy going to work every day, but I do, and I'm very fortunate."

After retirement, Knight said she is excited to see her nieces, nephews and siblings and spend more time with family.

Knight said she has missed out on a significant amount of time with her family members due to her devotion to her student-athletes and making her program successful.

"I haven't seen one of my brothers in seven or eight years, or my other brother and my sister," Knight said. "You have to make a decision. If you want to make your program great, other things have to go. So, it's going to be hard to walk away, but I'm excited to take the time to be with my family."

Have a question for us? Want to get involved? Contact:

Editor-in-Chief: Sofia Carrasco // scarrasco1@gulls.salisbury.edu

News: Sofia Carrasco // scarrasco1@gulls.salisbury.edu

Editorial: Melanie Raible // mraible1@gulls.salisbury.edu

Gull Life: Caroline Streett // cstreett1@gulls.salisbury.edu

Sports: Nick Lewis // nlewis4@gulls.salisbury.edu

Photography: Emma Reider // ereider3@gulls.salisbury.edu

Graphics: Amy Wojtowicz // awojtowicz4@gulls.salisbury.edu

Advertisements: Megan Campbell // mcampbell16@gulls.salisbury.edu

Copy Editor: Allison Guy // aguy7@gulls.salisbury.edu

Advisor: Ricky Pollitt // rpollitt@delmarvanow.com